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Fire Protection

**FIRE PREVENTION STANDARDS DURING
CONTRACT PERFORMANCE AND CIVIL
ENGINEER IN HOUSE WORK
ACCOMPLISHMENT**

COMPLIANCE WITH THIS PUBLICATION IS MANDATORY

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This instruction establishes fire prevention standards for agencies and personnel that accomplish service contracts and construction type projects on McChord AFB. These standards will become part of applicable contract specifications for work to be performed whether funded by military construction programs, operation and maintenance, or non-appropriated funds. The National Fire Code Standard 241, Safeguarding Building Construction and Demolition Operation, will be used for the prevention of fire by all construction contractors. For the purpose of this regulation, the word “contractor” will be construed to include Civil Engineering in-house work forces, and “fire protection systems” mean both alarms and suppression systems and components.

1. Construction Fire Protection. Fires can be prevented and controlled. Danger from fire is usually greater during construction than after completion. Serious fires can occur due to accumulation of combustible materials or debris and the presence of ignition sources. Basic safeguards against construction fire hazards must be provided during project planning. This regulation provides measures which, with some preplanning, will help prevent fires and minimize damage if fire occurs.

2. Responsibilities.

- 2.1. The Base Fire Chief or technical services representative will attend pre-performance conferences to brief contractors on pertinent fire regulations and to provide guidance for fire-safe operation during contract performance. Fire Prevention guidance appropriate for each contract type will be furnished to the contractor for briefing contract personnel and subcontractors.
- 2.2. It is the contractor’s responsibility to brief all of their employees, including subcontractors, about fire prevention safety and emergency reporting.

2.3. The contractor, or individual appointed by the contractor, will be in charge of fire prevention. The construction management representative will be the liaison between the contractor and the Base Fire Department.

3. Fire Protection Systems. When a contractor is to perform work on a facility that has an installed fire protection system and this work involves the fire protection system in whole or in part, the contractor is required to maintain and service the fire protection system until the project is completed and the facility is accepted by the base. The fire protection system will be operational at all times, to include nights, weekends, and holidays. The contractor must provide the Base Fire Department with a 24-hour telephone number for emergencies that may occur with the system. When the contractor has completed the project, an acceptance for the proper operation of the system is required. When confirmed by Civil Engineering that the system operates properly, the appropriate Civil Engineering shop will accept responsibility for maintenance of the system.

4. Construction Management. The Base Fire Department Communications Center, 984-2603, must be notified any time work or testing is being accomplished on a fire protection system. The notification will be within 5 minutes before the work is to be accomplished and after the work or test has been completed.

5. Water Mains and Fire Hydrants. Temporary connection to a water main or fire hydrant by a contractor will be coordinated with the Base Fire Department 984-2603 and Utilities Shop 984-2482 to ensure availability of water supply for fire protection is not jeopardized. Back flow protection and a 2-½ inch ball valve will be used when connecting to a fire hydrant. This will protect the base water supply from contamination and make use of the fire hydrant by the fire department easier in an emergency. 5-inch caps for the stortz connection are available from construction management. Use proper fitting hydrant wrench and spanner wrenches on fire hydrant and connections. Do not use a pipe wrench to operate fire hydrants. Ensure fire hydrants are fully open or fully closed, damage will result from leaving a hydrant partially open.

6. Fire Safety. Service contractors and their employees will follow fire safety provisions as outlined in 62 AWI 32-17, Base Fire Prevention Program, Air Force Occupational Safety and Health Standards, and the National Fire Codes.

7. Reporting a Fire. When reporting a fire emergency dial 911 from the nearest phone. If you are calling from a base phone the call will be answered at the base fire department. If the call is placed from any other phone including cell phone phones ensure the 911 operator know you are on McChord AFB the call will be forwarded to the McChord fire department. Once you reach the McChord fire department give location (building number of job site), nature of emergency and a callback phone number and your name.

8. Open Flame Equipment. If welding, cutting, brazing, or open-flame soldering is required, an AF Form 592, USAF Welding, Cutting, and Brazing Permit will be issued by the Base Fire Department. All

work will be accomplished in accordance with the provisions contained in National Fire Code 241. If any special precautions are required, they will be addressed at the time the permit is issued.

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